

Torn down April 1938

Christian Lane

West side - Near exit ramp for Route 9 – near 45
Christian Lane

1712

John Root and Margaret Strong

1934 WPA Census of Old Buildings in Connecticut Survey at the Connecticut State Library Digital Collection. Slide # 042

1712 John Root
west side Christian Lane faces east.
Current owner: Saul Pera
Integral saltbox, added leanto, old oak
clapboards show on wing rear wall. Chimney
gone. Two and half stories. Space between
studs filled with clay. Three windows left of the
entrance, two right of the entrance. Originality
of this arrangement is questionable. Second
floor level 4" on front, 3rd floor level, 4" on
ends. Exposed summer beam on second floor
shows chamfer and stop. Ceiling height 81". NE room - sash 6/8, muntins 1 1/8". 3 walls of plaster and
wainscot; 4th wall gone. One featheredge door and 4-raised panel door; summer beam 12 1/4". Second
floor - ceiling height 83". Two walls of this room are featheredge, now covered. Featheredge door.



Connecticut State Library, State Archives
WPA Architectural Survey: wpa_archsurvey_hed042

1935 Susqui-Centennial Celebration of the Town of Berlin – Berlin Old Houses.

1712 John Root present owner Saul Tera Christian Lane



Catharine North, A History of Berlin,
Connecticut, c1916, page 119

Photo Berlin Historical Society

The family had an original Indian deed.

Five generations of the Root family lived here.

The New Britain Herald, April 3, 1915: Hannah Root farm sold.

Hannah Root Farm Sold.

Francis Deming, trustee of the Timothy Root estate, has sold the Hannah Root farm on Christian lane to E. C. Burtwell, representing the the Connecticut Power company. The consideration was \$3,500. The Connecticut Power company is purchasing a right of way for a big high tension line which it is going to run through the town.

The Hannah Root farm has been in the Root family since the town was first settled. The house on the place was built in the year 1712 and a section of the barn was put up in 1705, about the same time that the Second church of Farmington was built on Christian lane. The house is probably the oldest in town. Miss Hannah Root, who has occupied the place for some time past, will take up her residence with Miss Churchill of Worthington ridge.

Genealogy

John Root was born in 1685 in Farmington, CT, the son of Stephen Root and Sarah Wadsworth. He moved to the Great Swamp Settlement in 1707 and were among the founders of the Great Swamp Settlement. On July 10, 1716 he married Margaret Strong. She was born in 1690 in Farmington, CT., the daughter of Asahel Strong and Margaret Hart. They had children including: Eunice, Margaret, John, Mary, and Sarah. Margaret died on April 20, 1751 and was buried in the Christian Lane Cemetery. John died on Nov. 16, 1764 and was buried in the Christian Lane Cemetery.

S.R. Durand:

"John Root was five feet ten inches tall, a strongly-built, vigorous man, and always soundly well. He was born in 1685 in Farmington, the second child of Stephen and Sarah (Wadsworth) Root. In 1707, he settled in the part of Kensington which was then called The Great Swamp and which later became part of Berlin. He was one of the first settlers, his deed being dated 1703. He commenced clearing a farm, which was a very difficult operation at that time, the ground being thickly covered with grapevines and brush. He built his barn in 1706 and his house in 1712, both of which were standing on the old homestead of the family more than 250 years later, and may still be standing today. He married July 10, 1716, Margaret Strong. He was a prominent church member, and in 1720 was collector of the rate bill for the minister's support. In the same year, he was one of a committee of three chosen by the Great Swamp Parish for the purpose of erecting a church.

John Root was never sick until his last illness. He died November 16, 1764 of lung fever, after only three days' illness."

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE: Old Indian Deeds
An Old Subscriber
The Hartford Courant (1887-1922); Nov 29, 1906; ProQuest Histori
pg. 8

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

Old Indian Deeds.

To the Editor of The Courant:—

Speaking of old deeds, we have in our possession one (among others of later date), dated 1705, conveying from the Indians, land to John Root of Farmington, one of the first settlers in the town of Berlin, on Christian lane, where the first church was built later. This homestead has been continuously in the family name for generations, and probably is, as far as can be ascertained, the oldest in town. These deeds are all handwritten, like the one mentioned in Monday's "Courant."

Preserved in the box with these old deeds is a copy of "The Connecticut Courant," dated "from Tuesday, June 30, to Tuesday, July 7, 1772." The size of the pages is about 8 by 14 inches, quite different from "The Courant" of the present day.

An Old Subscriber.
Berlin, November 27, 1906.